SEVERALL LETTERS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE KINGDOME OF SCOTLAND Residing at *31* LONDON,

To *William Lenthall*, Speaker of the House of Commons, concerning the proceedings against Religion, the KING and Government.

TOGETHER

With their Declaration and Protestation against the taking away the Majesties life, and their Letter to Sir *Thomas Fairfax*. *Jan.* 16[illegible]

As also,

Their Demands 24. *Feb.* 1648. for King *Charles* the Second, as rightfull Heir of the Crown of these Kingdoms, and their second Protestation against the proceedings of the Commons then sitting at *Westminster*. Together with a Declaration of the said Commons upon these Papers, and the Imprisonment of the *COMMISSIONERS*.

Printed at *London*, And Re-printed at *Edinburgh*, 1648.

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SIR,

THe Committee of Eſtates of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, underſtanding, that the honourable Houſes of Parliament, were proceeding in a Treaty for Peace, with his Majeſty, did about the beginning of the laſt Moneth, Authorize Us to preſent Propoſitions to his Majeſty; And particularly to deal with him, and the honourable Houſes; for eſtabliſhing the Covenant and Presbyterial Government, the Confeſſion of Faith, Directory for Worſhip, and Catechiſm; For preventing the toleration of Idolatry, Popery, Prelacy, Superſtition, Blaſphemy, Hereſie, and Schiſm; And for perfecting the great work of Reformation and Uniformity, according to the Covenant: the ſubſtance whereof hath been formerly communicated in a letter from the Committee of Eſtates, to both Houſes, and by one of our Number, upon his reception at the Committee of *Derby*-houſe, by Order from the Houſes of Parliament. But to our great grief we do perceive; That the diſtractions of this Kingdom are, beyond our expectation, grown exceeding high; That a force hath been placed on the paſſages to the Houſes; Which during tranſactions of higheſt concernment, hath impriſoned and ſecluded a great number of Members of Parliament; and given occaſion to many others, to withdraw, becauſe they find they cannot act as in a Free Parliament. That applications are made to You, for proceeding againſt the King, to take away his life, And for changing the Government of this Kingdom; And ſtrong endeavours are uſed to Overturn the whole work of Reformation, to caſt off the Miniſtery, and introduce a toleration of all Religions and Formes of Worſhip; And ſo in effect, to deſtroy the Cauſe wherein both Nations have been engaged; And fruſtrate all the ends of the Solemn League and Covenant, which

both Kingdoms have ſworn with up-lifted hands to Almighty GOD ſincerely, really, and conſtantly to perform. The conſideration of theſe things doth exceedingly trouble us, and fill our hearts with fears; That, as they are for the preſent, matter of great provocation of the wrath of God againſt us, diſhonourable to His Name, and a reproach to Religion; So, if perſiſted in, That they ſhall greatly weaken and divide us amongſt our ſelves; Unite forraign enemies againſt us; Advance the Popiſh intereſt; Looſe *Ireland*; and, in the end, prove deſtructive to the reformed Religion, and to the Peace and Happineſſe of theſe Kingdoms.

In the year 1640. When theſe Kingdoms were oppreſſed under the Yoke and Tyrannie of the Prelates, who then were far advanced in the deſign, to introduce Popery; The Kingdom of *Scotland* did joyn their endeavours with this Kingdom to procure a free Parliament here; looking upon it, as the chief mean, by the bleſſing of God, to give a check to the deſigns of the Prelats, who were ſtudying the change of Religion; and to the enterpriſes of evil Counſellors about the King, who were endeavouring to eſtabliſh an Arbitrary and tyrannical Government. And afterward, when through the power and prevalency of Papiſts, Prelates, and Malignants, this Kingdom was diſtreſſed; The Kingdom of *Scotland*, did enter into a Solemn League and Covenant with this Nation: For Reformation and defence of Religion, the Honour and Happineſſe of the King; and the Peace and Safety of the three Kingdoms; And particularly, for bringing the Churches of God therein, to the neareſt conjunction and uniformity in Religion, Confeſſion of Faith, form of Church-Government, Directory for Worſhip, and Catechiſing: For extirpation of Popery, Prelacy, Superſtition, Hereſie, Schiſm, Prophaneneſſe, and whatſoever ſhall be found contrary to ſound Doctrine: For mutual preſervation of the Rights and Priviledges of the Parliaments, and Liberties of the Kingdoms: For diſcovering of Incendiaries, Malignants, and evil Inſtruments, that hinder reformation of Religion, divide the King from his people, or one of the Kingdoms from another, or make any faction or party among the people, contrary to this League and Covenant, that

that they might be brought to publike trial and puniſhment: For preſerving Peace and Union betwixt the Kingdoms, and defending one another in this Cauſe, and continuing therein all the dayes of our lives zealouſly and conſtantly, againſt all oppoſition, and for promoting the ſame, according to our power, againſt all Lets and Impediments whatſoever.

In purſuance of the Solemne League and Covenant, both Houſes of Parliament have often declared, That they will eſtabliſh the reformation of Religion; Extirpate Popery and Prelacy, and ſuppreſſe Hereſie and Schiſm; And that they will maintain the fundamentall Government of this Kingdom, by King, Lords and Commons. And when the common Enemy being ſubdued, the *Scottiſh* Army was to go out of this Kingdom, in the beginning of the year 1647. And his Majeſty by conſent of both Kingdoms was to come to *Holdenby*, The Houſes of Parliament did declare both to the King, and to the Kingdom of *Scotland*; That reſpect ſhould be had to the ſafety and preſervation of his Majeſties Perſon, in the preſervation and defence of the true Religion, and Liberties of the Kingdoms, according to the Covenant. And when the King ſhould be at *Holdenby*, and the *Scottiſh* Forces gone out of this Kingdom, that they would joyne with the Kingdom of *Scotland*, in imploying their beſt endeavours, to procure his Majeſties aſſent to the Propoſitions agreed on by both Kingdoms. And incaſe the King ſhould not give his aſſent thereunto, That the Houſes were reſolved ſtill to maintain the happy Union already ſetled between the two Kingdoms, according to the Covenant and Treaties. The Parliament of *Scotland* did at the ſame time alſo, publiſh a Declaration of their intentions (whereof one Copy was delivered to his Majeſty, and another to the Houſes of Parliament.) That in the interim (untill his Majeſty ſhould give ſatisfaction to both Kingdoms, in the Propoſitions of Peace) there ſhould be no harm, prejudice, injury, or violence done to his royal Perſon; That there ſhould be no change of Government, other then had been for the three years preceeding; And that his Poſterity ſhould be no wayes prejudiced in their lawfull ſucceſſion to the Crown and Government of theſe Kingdoms.

Theſe being the engagements of both Kingdoms joyntly together, and ſeverally one to another, for the ends aforeſaid; We hold it our duty to endeavour, That reformation of Religion be ſetled and eſtabliſhed, as is before expreſſed; And eſpecially, that the toleration of Idolatry, Popery, Blaſphemy, Hereſie and Schiſm be prevented: leaſt we partake in other mens ſins; and thereby be in danger to receive of their plagues; That the rights and priviledges of Parliament may be preſerved; That there may be no change of the fundamentall Government; And that there be no harm, injury, or violence offered to his Majeſties perſon; the very thought whereof, the Kingdom of *Scotland* hath alwayes abhorred, as may appear by all their proceedings and Declarations: And the Houſes of Parliament, have upon ſeveral occaſions, expreſſed a deteſtation thereof in their Declarations.

Wherefore, we do expect, that there ſhall be no proceeding againſt his Perſon, which cannot but continue and increaſe the great diſtractions of theſe Kingdoms, and involve us in many difficulties, miſeries, and confuſions: But that by the free Councels of both Houſes of the Parliament of *England*, and with the advice and conſent of the Parliament of *Scotland*, (which is now ſitting) ſuch courſe may be taken in relation to him, as may be for the good and happineſſe of theſe Kingdoms; both having an unqueſtionable intereſt therein. We are

Covent-Garden, the 6th. *of January,* 1648/9.

Your affectionate Friends and Servants,

Signed, LOTHIAN.
Jo. Cheiſly.
Wil. Glendoning.

For the Hon. Wil. Lenthall *Eſquire, Speaker of the Houſe of Commons.*

SIR,

SIR,

UPon the ſixth of this inſtant, We ſent to you a Letter, with a copy of our Commiſſion incloſed; and delivered another Letter to be therewith communicated to the Houſe, which were directed, as uſually Letters from the Commiſſioners of *Scotland*, to the Houſe of Commons, have been. And when upon the delivery thereof, the Serjeant of the Houſe was ſent to enquire of us; whether the Letters were to the Speaker himſelf, or to be communicated to the Houſe; We anſwered, that they were to be communicated to the Houſe. And although we have divers times ſithence, ſolicited you for the reading thereof; yet we underſtand, that our Letters do ſtill remain in your hands, and have not been communicated. Wherefore, we hold it our duty, hereby to repreſent our ſenſe of this delay; expecting that we ſhall be enabled to give an account of our endeavours to the Parliament of *Scotland*. And ſo we reſt,

Covent-Garden the 19. of *January*, 1649.

Your affectionate Friends and Servants,

Signed, *Lothian*.
Jo. Chieſly, *William Glendoning*.

For the Hon. *Will. Lenthall* Eſquire, Speaker of the Houſe of Commons.

SIR,

WE were exceedingly ſurprized upon *Saturnday* in the afternoon, when we heard that his Majeſty was brought before this new extraordinary Court; and that there ſhould be ſuch haſt and precipitation, notwithſtanding the reſolution taken by the Houſe, upon reading of our Letter of the ſixth

ſixth of this inſtant, to take into conſideration what we have therein preſſed; as was ſignified by you to ſome of our Number. Wherefore we have ſent you this incloſed Paper to be forthwith communicated unto them. And in purſuance of the Directions which we have received from the Kingdom of *Scotland*, We do deſire, That they will take effectual courſe, that we may have free acceſſe to his Majeſty this day, and afterward upon all occaſions, as we ſhall think fit, without any interruption or moleſtation whatſoever. And ſo we reſt,

Covent-Garden the 22. *of January* 1649.

Your affectionate friends and ſervants,

Signed, *Lothian,*
Jo. Chieſly, William Glendoning.

For the Honourable *William Lenthall* Eſquire, Speaker of the houſe of Commons.

PROTESTATION.

BY our Letter of the ſixth of this inſtant, We repreſented unto you; what endeavours have been uſed, for the taking away of his Majeſties life; for change of the fundamentall Government of this Kingdom, and introducing a ſinfull and ungodly Toleration, in matters of Religion. And therein, we did expreſſe our ſad thoughts and great fears, of the dangerous conſequences that might follow thereupon. And further, we did earneſtly preſſe, that there might be no proceeding againſt his Majeſties perſon; which would certainly continue the great diſtractions of theſe Kingdoms: and involve us in many evils, troubles, and confuſions,: But that by the free Counſels of both Houſes of the Parliament of *England*, and with the advice and conſent of the Parliament of *Scotland*, ſuch courſe might

might be taken in relation to him, as may be for the good and happineſſe of theſe Kingdoms; both having an unqueſtionable and undeniable intereſt in his Perſon, as King of both: which duely conſidered, we had reaſon to hope, ſhould have given a ſtop to all proceedings againſt his Majeſties Perſon. But we underſtand; That, after many Members of the Houſe of Commons have been impriſoned and Secluded; And alſo without and againſt the conſent of the houſe of Peers, by a ſingle Act of yours alone, power is given to certain perſons of your own number, of the Army and ſome others, to proceed againſt his Majeſties perſon; In order whereunto, he was brought upon *Saturday* laſt in the afternoon, before this new extraordinary Court. Wherefore, We do in the name of the Parliament of *Scotland*, for their Vindication from falſe aſperſions and calumnies, Declare, That though they are not ſatisfied with his Majeſties Conceſſions in the late Treaty at *Newport* in the Iſle of *Wight*, eſpecially in the matters of Religion; And are reſolved not to crave his Majeſties reſtitution to his Government, before ſatisfaction be given by him to his Kingdoms; yet they do all unanimouſly, with one voice (not one Member excepted) diſclaim the leaſt knowledge of, or acceſſion to the late proceedings of the Army here againſt his Majeſty; And ſincerely profeſſe, that it will be a great grief unto their hearts, and lye heavy upon their Spirits, if they ſhall ſee their truſting of his Majeſties perſon, to the honourable Houſes of the Parliament of *England*, to be made uſe of to his ruine; ſo far contrary to the declared intentions of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and Solemn Profeſſions of the Kingdom of *England*. And to the end it may be manifeſt to the world, how much they abominate and deteſt ſo horrid a deſign againſt his Majeſties Perſon: We do in the name of the Parliament and Kingdom of *Scotland*; hereby declare their diſſent from the ſaid proceedings, and the taking away of his Majeſties life: And proteſt, that as they are altogether free from the ſame; ſo they may be free from all the evils, miſeries, confuſions, and calamities that may follow thereupon to theſe diſtracted Kingdoms.

January 22. 1648 Signed, *Lothian.*
Jo. Chieſly, William Glendoning.

A Letter from the Commiſſioners of the Parliament of Scotland *to the Lord* Fairfax, *General of the Parliaments Forces in* England.

May it pleaſe your Excellencie,

WE have diverſe times waited on you to ſolicite your endeavours for preſervation of his Majeſties perſon; And now having received particular Directions from the Eſtates of the Parliament of *Scotland*, to make application to your Excellency for the ſame end: We do in their names, earneſtly deſire and intreat, that you will take into ſerious conſideration, that the Kingdom of *Scotland* hath undoubted Intereſt in his Majeſties perſon, and how hard a thing it is to proceed againſt their King, not only without, but againſt their advice and conſent; That his perſon was intruſted by that Kingdom, to the honourable Houſes of Parliament, and how much it will reflect upon the Honour of *Scotland*, and the Faith of *England*, to take away his life. Be pleaſed alſo to remember, the many tyes and bands of love and friendſhip betwixt the Kingdoms, their ſolemn Engagements in one Cauſe and Covenant; And the many obligations and mutual good offices which have paſſed betwixt the Kingdom of *Scotland* and the Forces under your Command; Conſider, what an unſetled peace it is like to prove, which ſhall have its foundation laid in the blood of the King; What dangerous evils and grievous calamities it may bring upon us and our Poſterity; What reproach upon Religion, and the work of Reformation; and what infamy abroad in other Nations: And let it never be recorded to future Ages, that you have been wanting in your duty at ſuch a time as this: But according to the eminency of your Place, Honour,

Honour, and Dignity, and the greatneſſe of your Intereſt, improve this preſent opportunity by all lawfull wayes and means, to prevent the taking away his Majeſties life; Wherein, we do alſo earneſtly intreat the concurrance of your Councell of War, and ſo we reſt,

January, 29. 1648/9.

Your Excellencies moſt humble Servants,

Lothian.
Jo. Chieſly.
Wil. Glendoning.

For His Excellency, the Lord *Fairfax*, General of the Parliaments Forces.

The laſt Paper of the Scots *Commiſſioners.*

IN the year 1642. and afterwards in the year 1643. when the *Popiſh*, *Prelaticall* and *Malignant Party* did grow *prevalent* in this Kingdom, the *Honourable Houſes of Parliament* did communicate ſeveral Declarations, and Papers to the Kingdom of *Scotland*; thereby to inform their judgements of the ſtate of the differences here: And to gain their aſſiſtance, and invite their Forces to come into this Kingdom, In which Declarations and other Papers they affirm and declare,

Declar. and account to all the world, Aug. 1642.

That the Army of the Houſes of Parliament was raiſed for maintenance of the true Religion, the Kings Perſon, Honour and Eſtate, Priviledges of Parliament, Rights and Liberties of Subjects, and for the prevention of the Alteration of Religion. That their *Enemies Deſign* was, to *corrupt* and *alter Religion*, throughout the whole Iland; And that they begun with *Scotland*, knowing

Engliſh Commiſ. Aug. 1643.

knowing well that the ſame fate attended both Kingdoms. That they have only inverted the manner of their proceedings, conceiving it an eaſier way to deſtroy them, if they may firſt prevail over the Parliament and Kingdom of *England*. That whenſoever Religion is ſubverted or changed in one Kingdom, it will be eaſily accompliſhed in the other: *Religion* being the *band* and *foundation* of the *happineſſe* of both. That what corruptions take root in *England*, will quickly ſpread their venome and infection to their Neighbour-Church of *Scotland*.

They declare the true ſtate of the Quarrel to be *Religion*: In Reformation whereof they are ſo forward and zealous, as there is nothing expreſſed in *Scotland's* former or latter Declarations, which they have not ſeriouſly endeavoured to effect.

They earneſtly intreat the General Aſſemby to further and expedite the Aſſiſtance deſired by both Houſes from the Kingdome of *Scotland* upon this ground and motive, That thereby they ſhall do great ſervice to God, and great honour may redound to themſelves in becoming the Inſtruments of a glorious Reformation, not onely throughout this Iſland, but from thence poſſibly to be ſpread to other Churches, oppreſſed under the Antichriſtian bondage and tyrannie of the Popiſh and Prelaticall faction.

Declar. Sept 1642. in anſwer to the Scots Declaration.

They commend the prudence and faithfulneſſe of the General Aſſembly of the Church of *Scotland*, in propounding thoſe things which may conduce to a more cloſe and firm Union of the two Churches and Nations of *England* and *Scotland*, in preſerving and maintaining the truth and purity of the reformed Religion, not onely againſt Popery, but all Superſtitions, Sects, and Innovations whatſoever; And declare that the Houſes of Parliament have ever made the *Reformation* of *Church-Government* and *Diſcipline* their chiefeſt aim, though they have been frequently interrupted, and powerfully oppoſed in the proſecution and accompliſhment of it; and however they continue ſtill in their ſtorm and conflict; yet they take the peace, liberty and preſervation which God hath afforded *Scotland*, as a pledge of the like mercy intended to them, in his good time; hoping that God will perfect their deſigns and endeavours of a full Reformation

tion in all things pertaining to Religion; and profeſſe their earneſt deſires for unity of Religion, in all ſubſtantial parts of Doctrine, Worſhip, and Diſcipline, that both Kingdoms might be more ſtrictly united, and enjoy the advantages of his Majeſties more eaſie, ſafe, and comfortable Government; the people a more free communion in all holy exerciſes & duties of Worſhip, and that there might be a more conſtant ſecurity of Religion, againſt the bloody practices of Papiſts, and deceitful errors of Sectaries. They *Remonſtrate*, that it is far from their purpoſe, or deſire, to let looſe the golden reins of Diſcipline, and Government of the Church; to leave private perſons, or particular Congregations to take up what form of Divine Service they pleaſe; but do hold it requiſite that there ſhould be throughout the whole Realm a Conformity to that order which the Laws enjoyn, according to the Word of God. They *Proteſt* in the preſence of the All-ſeeing Deity, that the ſervices which they have been deſirous to perform to their Soveraign Lord and King, and to his Church and State, in providing for the publike peace and proſperity of his Majeſty, and all his Realms, to have been, and ſtill to be the onely End of all their Counſels and endeavors; wherein they have reſolved to continue freed and enlarged from all private aims, perſonal reſpects, or paſſions whatſoever. They oft mention their *Proteſtation* taken by every Member of both Houſes, promiſing, in the preſence of Almighty God, to defend his Majeſty, and diſclaim the having any purpoſe to offer the leaſt violence to his perſon, which hath and ever ſhall be dear unto them. They *Declare* that they expect the help and aſſiſtance of *Scotland*, in defence of the Cauſe; which, if the Popiſh party prevail, muſt needs either involve them in that Alteration of Religion, which will be made here, or ingage them in a War againſt this Kingdom, to defend their own Religion and Liberty; and they profeſſe, before the everliving God, the ſafety of Religion, Laws, and Liberties, in this and all other his Majeſties Dominions, to be the chief end of all their Counſels and Reſolutions, without any intention, or deſire to hurt or injure his Majeſty, either in his perſon, or in his juſt power: That they reſt aſſured, both God and Man will abhor and abominate that monſtrous and injurious charge

Remonſt. *Decemb.* 1641.

May, 16

Declar. Oct. 16 *In anſw. the Ki. concern. Keinto Battel. Declar. Proteſt. all the world,*

laid upon the Repreſentative body of this Kingdom, and deſigning the ruine, not only of his Maieſties perſon, but of Monarchie it ſelf, and appeal to all the World, whether worſe words then theſe can be given them.

Theſe *Declarations*, and *Solemn Engagements* were communicated to the Kingdom of *Scotland* before they did joyn in the War with the Houſes of Parliament: And alſo both Kingdomes entred into a *Solemn League* and *Covenant*, for Reformation and defenſe of Religion, for Uniformity in one Confeſſion of Faith, Form of Church-Government, Directory for Worſhip and Catechiſing; for extirpation of Popery, Superſtition, Hereſie, Schiſm, Profaneneſſe, and whatſoever ſhall be found contrary to ſound Doctrine, and the power of Godlineſſe; for preſervation of the Rights and Priviledges of Parliament, and Liberties of the Subject; for the honour and happineſs of the *King* and his Poſterity, and the peace and ſafety of theſe Kingdoms.

In the year 1646. after the power and ſtrength of the Enemy was broken, the Houſe of Commons did, upon the 17 of *April*, publiſh a Declaration (which they likewiſe cauſed to be ſet up and affixed in every Pariſh-Church) wherein they vindicated themſelves from ſeveral miſ-conſtructions, and miſ-repreſentations of their proceeding: As that they ſhould have any intention, or deſire, to make uſe of the great ſucceſſe God had given them, contrary to their former profeſſions; or to exceed or ſwerve from their firſt aims and principles, in the undertaking this War; and to recede from the Solemn League and Covenant, and Treaties betwixt the Kingdoms, or to prolong theſe uncomfortable troubles, and bleeding diſtractions, in order to alter the fundamentall Conſtitution and frame of this Kingdom, and to leave all Government in the Church looſe and unſettled; and themſelves to exerciſe the ſame Arbitrary power over the perſons and eſtates of the Subjects, which the preſent Parliament had thought fit to aboliſh, by taking away the Star-Chamber, High-Commiſſion, and other Arbitrary Courts, and the exorbitant power of the Council-Table. And further they Declare, That their true and real Intentions are, and their endeavours ſhall be to ſettle Religion in the purity thereof, according

cording to the Covenant. And to maintain the ancient and fundamental Conſtitution and Government of this Kingdom, by *King, Lords,* and *Commons*.

In *November*, 1647. When a Petition was preſented to the Houſe of Commons, ſtyling them, *The Supream Authority of the Nation*, together with a Printed-paper annexed, entituled, *An Agreement of the People*, for a firm and preſent peace, upon grounds of common Right (which Agreement, as we have found, upon peruſal of both, is the ſame for ſubſtance with the Agreement lately publiſhed) the Houſe of Commons did Declare, that the matters conteined in theſe Papers were deſtructive to the being of Parliaments, and to the fundamental Government of the Kingdom; and appointed a Letter to be written to the General, to examine the proceeding of that buſineſſe in the Army, and return an account thereof to the Houſe: And when another Petition directed to the *Supream Authority of England*, the Commons in Parliament Aſſembled, was preſented the 23. of the ſame Month, They Voted that Petition, a Seditious and Contemptuous avowing, and proſecution of the former Petion and Paper annexed, ſtyled, *An Agreement of the People*, formerly adjudged to be deſtructive to the being of Parliaments, and fundamental Government of the Kingdom: And another Letter was appointed to be ſent to the General, to take notice of his proceedings, in the execution of a mutinous Perſon, (who was an abbetter of that Agreement) at the Rendezvouz neer *Ware*; and to give him thanks for it, and deſire him to proſecute the Examination of that buſineſſe to the bottom, and to bring ſuch guilty perſons, as he ſhall think fit, to condign and exemplary puniſhment. All which Declarations, Proteſtations, Oaths, Covenants, and Solemn Engagements notwithſtanding, We find to our great grief, wonder and aſtoniſhment, That, contrary to the Diſſent and Proteſtation of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, his Majeſtie is removed out of this life, by a violent death; That Orders are publiſhed in Print, entituled, *Acts of Parliament*, prohibiting the Proclaiming of the Prince of *Wales*, King of theſe Kingdoms. That the Commons which now ſit at *Weſtminſter*, (after many Members of that Houſe

House have been Imprisoned, Secluded by Force, or necessitated to withdraw, because they cannot Act as in a free Parliament) have Voted away the Kingly Office, and the House of Lords, and claim the Authority of a Parliament, and under colour thereof, the power of repealing all Oaths of Allegiance, or Obedience whatsoever, even without exception of the Solemn League and Covenant; from which the Conscience cannot be absolved, by all the powers on earth.

We see likewise strong Endeavours used, and Resolutions taken to maintain a Licentious Liberty, and ungodly Toleration, in matters of Religion (as appear's by a Paper lately published, commonly called, *An Agreement of the people*) against which, upon the 26. of *January* last, We did present a Testimony of the Commissioners of the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, approved of by the Estates of Parliament of that Kingdom.

If the Honourable Houses of the Parliament of *England*, who made the Declarations and Engagements aforesaid, Had been permitted to Sit, and Act with freedom, We know there would have been no such proceedings, as we have already seen, nor cause to fear such dangerous evils, and strange alterations, as are now carried on by Will and Power; We may confidently say, they would have been more mindfull of their many Declarations, and the Solemn League and Covenant, and more ready to hearken to the advice of their Brethren of *Scotland*: And however no regard hath been had by those who now Rule, to what we have formerly said; (and so we have small hopes that any great notice shall be taken of what we shall further say:) Yet in pursuance of the Instructions we have received from the Parliament of *Scotland*, we hold it our duty to desire, That there may be no Toleration of Idolatry, Popery, Prelacy, Heresie, Schism, or Prophanesse; That there be no change of the fundamental Constitution and Government of this Kingdom, by *King*, *Lords*, and *Commons*; That there may be nothing done, which may wrong King CHARLES the Second, in his Succession, as righteous Heir of the Crown of these Kingdoms; but that by the free Councils of both Houses

Houſes of Parliament, Reformation of, and Uniformity in Religion may be ſetled according to the Covenant; and particularly, that Presbyterial Government, the Confeſſion of Faith, Directory for Worſhip, and Catechiſm may be eſtabliſhed, That the juſt Right and Title of King *CHARLES* the Second, to the Crown of theſe Kingdoms may be acknowledged; and upon juſt ſatisfaction given to both Kingdoms, he may be received and admitted to the exerciſe of his Government; and if, notwithſtanding all our earneſt deſires and endeavours to the contrary, the Commons now ſitting at *Weſtminſter* ſhall proceed otherwiſe, in all, or in any of the particulars aforeſaid; We do hereby, in the Name of the Parliament and Kingdom of *Scotland*, diſſent from the ſame; and ſolemnly proteſt, That they may be free before God and Man, of the guiltleſſe, evils, confuſions, miſeries, and calamities, that may follow thereupon to theſe diſtracted Kingdoms.

Lothian.

Feb. 24. 1648. *Jo. Chieſly.*

Will. Glendoning.

The Parliament having received a *Paper* dated the 24 of *Feb.* 164⅞. Subſcribed by the Earl of *Lothian*, Sir *John Chieſly* and Mr. *Glendoning*, in the Name of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and taking the ſame into their ſerious Conſiderations,

THey do *Declare*, That the ſaid *Paper* doth contain much *Scandalous*, and *Reproachfull matter* againſt the juſt proceedings of this Parliament; and an *Aſſuming* on the behalf of that Kingdom, to have *Power* over the *Laws* and *Government* of this Nation, to the high diſhonour thereof;

And laſtly, a *Deſign* in the Contrivers and Subſcribers of it, to *raiſe Sedition*, and lay the grounds of a new and bloody War in this Land; that, under the ſpecious pretences in that *Paper* contained, they may gain advantages to ſecond their late perfidious *Invaſion*.

And it is further *Declared*, that all perſons whatſoever, reſiding in *England*, or *Ireland*, or the Dominions thereof, that ſhall *joyn* with, or *adhere* unto, or voluntarily *aid*, or *aſſiſt* the ſaid Contrivers and Subſcribers of any whoſoever, of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, in purſuance of the grounds by them laid in the ſaid *Paper*, for raiſing Sedition, and a new and bloody War in this Land, are *Rebels* and *Traitors* to the *Common-wealth* of *England*, and ſhall be proceeded againſt, as *Traitors*, and *Rebels*.

Hen. Scobel, Cler. Parliament.

Die Lunæ 26. Februarij, 1648.

ORdered by the Commons Aſſembled in Parliament, That the Lord *Lothian*, Sir *John Chieſly*, and Mr. *Glendoning*, Commiſſioners of the Kingdom of *Scotland*, ſhall have a Guard ſet upon their Lodging to ſecure them, and alſo reſtrain them from communication with any, by whom the ſedition contained in their Papers, dated 24th *February*, 1648. might be promulged, and that none be ſuffered to have acceſſe to them, or to paſſe out from them but for their ſupply with neceſſaries, during their abode here.

Signed, *Hen. Scobell*, Cler. *Parl.*

UPon this Order, Colonel *Harriſon* gave warrand to Captain *Sexby*, who committed them and Maſter *Robert Blair* Miniſter at St. *Andrews*, and Commiſſioner for the Kirk of *Scotland*, cloſe Priſoners in the Block-houſe at *Graveſend*, and after their reſtraint ſeveral dayes, they were ſent with a Guard of a Troop of Horſe, Commanded by Captain *Dolphin* to *Berwick*, there to be detained, unleſſe the States of *Scotland* did own their proceedings: And the States of *Scotland*, having owned their Letters, Declarations, and Proteſtations, they were diſmiſſed at the Bound-rod.

FINIS.

For the honorable VVilliam Lenthal *Esquire, Speaker of the House of Commons.*

SIR,

HAving seen a Paper of the 24. of *February* last, given in to you by our Commissioners, with a Printed Paper thereupon of the 26. of *February*, Intituled, *A Declaration of the Parliament of* England, *declaring the aforesaid Paper given in by our Commissioners, to contain reproachfull matter against the Proceedings of the Parliament of England*; and assuming power over the Lawes and Government of that Nation, with a designe to raise sedition, and lay the grounds of a new War in that Land; And further, ordering a Message to be sent to us, to know whether we will owne the said Paper presented in our names; And that our Commissioners being by command from us, (upon their return from that Kingdom) are restrained, and a Guard set upon them; We could not be so far wanting in that dutie we owe to this Kingdom, and the care, and regard which in justice and honour we ought to have of the safetie and freedom of those imployed in so publick a trust, As not to take speciall notice of their condition and hard usage; And have therefore resolved and thought fit to signifie to you, That We do owne that Paper given in by our Commissioners, as agreeable to the Instructions which they had from us, wherein we, and they in our name, could not but give Testimony against those things which we conceived to be contrary to the grounds and bonds so often declared and acknowledged by both Kingdoms, lest our silence be esteemed a complyance, or we thought any wayes accessorie to those great Alterations, and the dangerous consequences may ensue thereupon. And as our Protestations in the former Session of Parliament against the late unlawfull Engagement, our Act of this Parliament disclaiming and repealing the same, and every thing done in persuance thereof; and our whole proceedings before, and since, are sufficient and reall evidences of our sincere desires, and constant resolutions to continue the Union and Peace betwixt the Kingdoms, according to the Covenant and Treaties: so is it very far from our Intentions, to assume any power over the Lawes and Govern-

ment of that Kingdom, or any wayes to raise sedition, or lay the grounds of a new War, or do any thing in pursuance of the late unlawfull Engagement, which can no wayes be inferred from the said Paper, containing only our adhe ence to our former Principles, acknowledged by both Kingdoms, And it being given in to you, to be communicated in the ordinary way.

We are so tender of the Union betwixt the Nations, that we think the Remonstrating of the breaches of Peace, the craving of just reparation, and using of all amiable and fair means, should be first essayed, before any Engagement in a War, which even then cannot be done by either Kingdom, without a breach of the Large Treatie, unlesse it be upon three Moneths warning preceding; upon which, amongst other grounds and reasons, We did protest and declare against the late Engagement, And do confidently expect the like from *England*; according to the Papers given in by their Commissioners, to the preceding Session of Parliament. And however any prevalent party in either Kingdom hath infringed, or may break these bonds, yet we do not conceive it either agreeable to Gods will, or conduceable to the welfare of these Nations, to lay those sacred tyes aside as dissolved and cancelled, but rather that they should be preserved for the good of both Kingdoms, and benefit of those who have no accession to such breaches, and of succeeding Generations who are innocent thereof, and may sustain manifold Inconveniences by the dissolution of the same.

Having thus cleared our Intentions and resolutions, We hope none can justly blame this Nation to continue and remain constant in their former judgement and principles, which the Honourable Houses of the Parliament of *England*, professed also to be theirs, when they induced this Kingdom to enter into so Solemn a League and Covenant with them; far lesse can it be any ground at all for restraining our Commissioners, contrary to the Publick Faith and Law of Nations, by which the freedom of Ambassadours and Commissioners is sacred and inviolable, not onely betwixt Christian, but even amongst Heathen Kingdoms & States. And therfore we desire that our Commissioners may be free from all restraint, that they may, without any stop or molestation, return in what way they think most fit to give us accompt of their Proceedings; In confidence whereof we remain.

Your affectionat Friends

Signed in name and by Command of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Scotland:

Loudoun Cancellarius.

Edinburgh, March 6. 1649

Instructions to the Earle of Lothian, *Sir* Iohn Chiesly, *and* VVilliam Glendoning.

Edinburgh, 6. March, 1649.

1. YOu shall shew, That it is the constant resolution of the Parliament of this Kingdom, inviolably to preserve the Peace and Union between the two Kingdomes, according to our Solemn League and Covenant and Treaties, which hath been often acknowledged to be of so great use and advantage to both.

2. And hearing that our raising of Forces in this Kingdom is interpreted, as if thereby we intended to Invade *England*; you shall therefore shew, that our present leavying of Forces is necessitate for suppressing of Malignants, who are in Armes and rebellion, and have surprized the Garrison of *Innernes*, to prevent further Insurrections, and to preserve the Peace of this Kingdom, and no wayes for Invasion of *England*.

3. You shall shew, That by the Large Treatie, the remonstrating of the breach of Peace, the craving of just reparation, and using of all fair means should be first essayed, before any Engagement of these Kingdomes in a War, which even then cannot be done by either Kingdom, but upon a preceding warning of three Moneths; which rule as we intend to observe on our part, so being informed of a designe in *England*, to send an Army to Invade this Kingdom, we desire you to enquire, whether these who have the present power and command of the Forces in *England* think themselves obliged, and do intend to observe the foresaid rule upon their part to us; for enforcing hereof, you may remonstrate, that the Commissioners from that Kingdom, in their Papers given in the last Session of Parliament, did urge this duty from the Treatie; and upon the same ground amongst others, we did protest against the late Engagement, and have repealed all Acts made for promoving thereof.

4. You shall manage these Instructions as upon the place you shall think fit, to the best advantage, and, as soon as you can, return to us an accompt of your diligence.

Signed in the name, and by the command of the Parliament of the Kingdom of Scotland.

Loudoun *Cancell.*

Praeses Parliamenti.

To the right Honourable the Noblemen, Commissioners of Shires and Burghs conveened in the Parliament of Scotland.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Am Commanded by the Parliament of *England*, to desire your Lordships to acquaint the Parliament of *Scotland*, that they have many things of just resentment on the behalf of this Nation and Commonwealth, to make known and demand satisfaction in, from the Parliament and Kingdom of *Scotland*, the particulars whereof, they think not needfull to mention at this time, being things so generally known and fresh in memory: And being desirous in the first place, to use endeavours for satisfaction in a peaceable way; They do therefore propound, That Commissioners on the behalf of each Nation respectively, may be appointed to meet in some meet and convenient place, mutually to be agreed upon, and with what convenient speed may be; unto which meeting, Commissioners shall be sent, fully authorized from the Parliament of *England*, and on the behalf of this Commonwealth, with Instructions to make known the Particulars which they have to complain of: Wherein if they shall receive satisfaction, the Parliament of *England* are willing, and their Commissioners shall be further authorized and instructed, to treat and conclude a firm & a strict League of Amitie and friendship between the two Nations; by means whereof (if it be the will of God) these Nations may be preserved in a lasting Peace and happy enjoyment of Religion in its purity, together with their Civill Liberties, notwithstanding the many wicked designes that are on foot against them, as well by the secret as professed Enemies of both. This is all I have in charge, save onely to desire, that the Parliament of *Scotlands* Answer hereunto may be returned by the bearer, who is sent expresse about the same end: So rests,

Your Lordships humble servant.

Sic subscribitur

VVilliam Lenthall,

Speaker of the Parliament of *England*.

Westminster 23. May, 1649.

For the Honourable William Lenthal *Esquire Speaker of the House of Commons.*

SIR,

THe Estates of Parliament of this Kingdom have received a letter dated the twentie third of *May* 1649, signed by you as speaker of the Parliament, and written in name of the Common wealth of *England*, Which title in regard of the Solemn League and Covenant and Treaties, and of the many declarations of the Parliament of both Kingdomes, are such as they may not ackowledge; As for the matter therein contained, Those many things of just Resentment wherein satisfaction is demanded from this Kingdom, are onelie mentioned in the Generall, and cannot so well receive a particular answer; But if by those Generall expressions the late unlawfull Engagement against *England* be understood, They desire that their protestation against the same in Parliament, and the opposition made thereunto by them afterward in Armes (which they never laid down untill the Garisons of *Berwicke* and *Carleil* were Restored to the Kingdom of *England*) may be remembred, Together with the letter of the House Commons to the Generall Assembly of this Kirk of the of 1648 And that Lieutenant Generall *Cromwell* Authorised from both houses of Parliament, did upon the fifth of *October* last represent to the Committee of Estates of this Kingdom, the wrongs and Injuries committed against the Kingdom of *England* in that engagement, and thereupon did demand that they would give assurance in name of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, not to admit or suffer any who have been active in, or consenting to that Engagment to be imployed in any publick place or trust whatsoever, which was not only granted, and afterwards confirmed in Parliament, but all acts in prosecution of that engagement have been repealed, and all proceedings relating thereunto publicklie disclaimed, and if any other wrongs shall be made known to us, we shall be ready to Return such answers as may give just satisfaction: And if the bonds of Religion, loyaltie to the King, And mutuall Amitie and friendship betwixt the Kingdoms be Impartiallie Considered according to the Solemn League and Covenant, and the professions and declarations of Both Kingdomes, The Estates of Parliament think that they have just Cause to complain of the late proceedings in *England* in reference to Religion, The taking away the Kings life, and the Change of the foundamentall Government of that Kingdome; against which this Kirk and Kingdome and their Commissioners

[illegible] protested and given Testimony, whereunto they doe still adhere; And sure it is apparent there hath been of late in *England* a backslyding and departing from the grounds and principles wherein the two Kingdoms were engaged, the Parliament of this Kingdom doth propound that the late proceedings there against the Covenant and Treaties may be disclaimed and disallowed, as the prosecution of the late unlawfull Engagement against *England* hath been disclaimed and disavowed here; and such as have departed from these principles and their former professions, may return to the same, upon which grounds they are content to authorise Commissioners on behalfe of this Kingdome to treat with Commissioners of both houses of the Parliament of *England* sitting in freedom, concerning all maters of just Complaint which either Nation may have against the other, and for redresse and reparation thereof, and to doe every thing that may conduce for continuing the happy peace and union betwixt the Kingdomes, which can never be settled on so sure a foundation as the former Treaties and Solemn League and Covenant, from which, as no alteration of affaires can absolve either Kingdome, so we trust that no successe whatsoever whether good or bad shall be able to divert us; But as it hath been our care in times past, it shall, with the Lords assistance, still be our reall endeavour for the future to keep our selves free of all complyance with, or, declyning to the popish, prelaticall and malignant partie upon the one hand, or to these that are enemies to the fundamentall Government by King and Parliament, and countenance and maintain error, heresie and Schisme upon the other. I have no other thing in command from the Parliament of this Kingdome, but to take notice that there is no answer returned to their letter of the 6 th of *March*, last, and so rests your humble servant

Loudoun *Cancellarius.*

EDINBURGH the 26 June. 1649.

Praeses Parliamenti.

SIR,

THe Eſtates of the Parliament of this Kingdome remembring that they had written a Letter unto you the ſixt of *March*, 1649. by an expreſſe, with inſtructions for their Commiſſioners to be communicate to you, which did much concern the good & peace of theſe Kingdomes; And that they received one from you of 23. of *May* following, whereunto they returned their Anſwer upon the 26. of *June*, 1649. and therein did take notice that they had received no return to theirs of the ſixth of *March* preceding, neither have they to this day received any anſwer to the ſame: And having intelligence of the marching of your forces towards this kingdome, and being alſo certainly informed that your ſhips have lately ſearched divers, and ſeazed upon ſome of the ſhips with the perſons and goods therein belonging to this Nation. And conſidering how contrary theſe things are (where there has been no provocation or injury offered by the party) to the Act of Pacification in the large Treaty, which requires that no ſhips ſhould ſtop the trade of the other kingdome without conſent of Parliament declaring a breach of Peace, and if any wrong be done, that upon complaint and Remonſtrance made to the Parliament or their Commiſſioners, redreſſe and reparation ſhould be ſought before it be accompted a breach of Peace by the whole kingdom; And if either Parliament ſhould denounce Warre, that they ſhould give three moneths warning, They have therefore reſolved to ſend, as they doe herewith ſend unto you Authentick duplicates of all theſe four above mentioned papers, and to ſhew how that they keep the ſame Principles and Reſolves, ſtill to walk according to the ſame Rules and grounds, and have no other intentions or reſolutions in relation to Peace or Warre in theſe Nations, then they did expreſſe at large in theſe papers, as is moſt fully ſet down in their Letter of the ſixth of *March*, and Inſtructions ſent therewith to their Commiſſioners then in *England*; wherein as they did on their part both acknowledge their Obligation, and declare their reſolution to obſerve the rule of remonſtrating, firſt the

breaches

breaches of Peace; of craving just reparation; of using all fair means; of giving a preceding warning of three months before any Engagement of these kingdoms in War, so they do now renew the same, and accordingly have renewed the Acts of Posture and Leavie, for putting the forces of this Kingdome in readinesse in case of Invasion, which were made the last yeer when they wrot the forsaid letter of the sixth of *March*; All which they doe solemnly professe to be done by them in the sincerity of their hearts, not out of any Policy to catch advantages for any other end or designe whatsoever, but meerly for their own defence, which they do accompt abundantly sufficient to remove all grounds of jealousies and misreports of their Intentions, and to take away all pretence of necessity of the marching of your forces for defence of the Borders of *England*; wherefore on the other part, the Parliament being informed of a resolution in *England* to send an Army to invade this kingdome, They desire to know from you whether those who have the present power in *England*, doe acknowledge themselves obliged, or by their answer will oblige themselves, and declare their resolutions to observe the foresaid way and order upon their part to us, & plainly and clearly to declare unto us whether their forces do march for defence or offence; whether with Intention for keeping only within the Borders of *England*, or coming within ours; which way of procedour in clearing each others, and dealing plainly, is not only agreeable to particular Treaties, and to the many Tyes, Bonds, and Declarations past betwixt these kingdomes, but also to the law of God and practice of his people in his word, and to the common law & practice, even of heathen Nations, much more of Christian Covenanted Kingdomes, and may prevent many evils and dangerous consequences which may fall out, even beyond, and contrary to the intentions of Nations by their Armies lying near other upon their Borders, although upon meerly intended defence. Having thus cleared their intentions, and desired to be cleared touching yours; They further desire to let you know, that as *Jephta* and *Israel* sent the like message to the Ammonites, 11 *Judges* 12. and 27. so they rest confident that the Covenanted God of these kingdomes, who did take order with those of this Nation, who did unlawfully engage against *England*, in 1648. doth still live and reign, and will bring shame and ruine upon whatsoever party in either of these Nations, that without a necessary cause, and cleer calling; and without observance of the said rule and order of seeking first reparation, and giving warning as aforesaid, shall offend and invade the other Nation: They further desire, that with this bearer who is sent expresse, an answer may be returned to

this,

this, and to the incloſed papers formerly ſent unto you, and that the ſubjects of this Nation, with their ſhips and goods, may be preſently relieved, and diſmiſſed; This being all I have in Command to repreſent to you from the Parliament of this kingdome, I reſt,

Edinburgh, 22. *June*, 1650.

For the Honourable WILLIAM LENTHAL Eſquire, *Speaker of the Houſe of Commons.*

Your humble Servant,

Burleigh,

Præſes Parliamenti.

At Edinburgh 4. Iuly, 1650.

Act Ratifying the Treaty betwixt the Kings Majeſty and the Commiſsioners of the Parliament of this Kingdom.

THE Eſtates of Parliament now preſently Conveened in the fifth Seſſion of this ſecond Triennall Parliament of King *Charles* the ſecond, Taking to their conſideration, that now by the bleſſing of God upon this Church and Kingdom, and upon their endeavours in the Treaty with the Kings Majeſty; The ſaid Treaty betwixt the Kings Majeſty and the Parliament of this Kingdom, is now brought to a bleſſed and happie cloſe; And that the Kings Majeſty hath been pleaſed to give a full conſent to the propoſitions given in to his Majeſtie by the Commiſſioners of the Parliament of this Kingdom, contained in a Paper baring date 11. *June*, 1650. And that thereupon his Majeſty was Invited by the ſaids Commiſsioners in name and by warrand of the Parliament to come to his Ancient Kingdom, according to the Act of Parliament of the date 18. *May*, 1650. Declaring and explaining their former invitation given to his Majeſty at *Breda*; and that his Majeſty at his arrivall to this Kingdom, did ſubſcribe the Nationall Covenant, and

the Solemn League and Covenant, and Solemnely swear the same at *Spey*-mouth 23. *June* last, which the saids Estates of Parliament do acknowledge to be a matter of praise unto God, and of great contentment unto them as a return unto their Prayers, that now the Lord of His mercy hath been pleased to give them a Covenanting King, who hath entered in Covenant with God, and with His people; And therefore the saids Estates of Parliament do by thir presents unanimously accept of His Majesties Answers as satisfactory to their foresaids demands, And therefore doth Ratifie and approve the foresaids propositions given in by the saids Commissioners of this Kingdom to His Majesty upon the 11. *June* last, with his Majesties consent thereto, and the foresaid invitation given in to His Majesty by their saids Commissioners, according to the tenour of the foresaid Act of Parliament 18. *May* 1650. and the Paper given in by their Commissioners of the date day of anent the persons to be left behinde, And Ordains the foresaids propositions, and his Majesties consent thereto, with the foresaid invitation according to the explanation thereof above written, and the Paper foresaid to be insert in the books of Parliament, and to have the strength of an Act of Parliament in all time coming; and also in respect that the Kings Majesty hath been gratiously pleased to give satisfaction to this Kingdom, and to their demands, as is contained in his said consent to the foresaids propositions concerning the security of Religion and the Union betwixt the Kingdoms, and the good and Peace of this Kingdom, according to the Nationall Covenant, and Solemne League and Covenant: Therefore in Testimony to his Majesty and to all the World of the Loyaltie and Integritie of their intentions towards his Majestie, and for fulfilling and performance of their part of the said Treaty to his Majesty: They do now by thir presents unanimously declare, that his Majesty may and is presently to enter to the Exercise of his Royall power to govern his people in Righteousnesse and equity, according to the Laws of this Kingdom, the Covenants abovewritten, and the Treaty foresaid, for the Honour of God, good of Religion, and welfare of his people. And as the saids Estates did upon 5. *Februrary* 1649. publish the Act of their due acknowledgement of his Majesties Right, Title, and succession to the Crown; So also do they publish this their due acknowledgement of his Majesties admition and entering to the Exercise of his Royall power according to his just Title and right; Likeas the saids Estates of Parliament being most desirous and earnest that his Majesty should be presently Crowned, and so be solemnly invested in the posses-

sion

ſion thereof, but in reſpect the preſent condition of his Majeſties affairs and of the affairs of this Kingdom, neceſſitates the Eſtates of Parliament to adjourn this preſent Seſſion of Parliament for a ſhort time, for putting this Kingdom in a Poſture for defending Religion, the King and Kingdom againſt the threatened Invaſion: Therefore the ſaid Eſtates, doe humbly and moſt earneſtly Invite his Majeſty to be preſent in his Royall Perſon with his Parliament at their next meeting, where they are reſolved (God willing) to perfect the Solemnity of his Coronation, at which time the ſaids Eſtates of Parliament are confident his Majeſty will again approve and confirm the whole Articles above mentioned, and renew the Covenant aforeſaid, for his Majeſties good and happineſſe, and for ſatisfaction of his people; and in the mean time, the ſaids Eſtates during this preſent intervall, do reſolve to appoint a Committee of Eſtates, by whoſe adviſe his Majeſty is to manage the Government of this Kingdom in all matters according to the Commiſsion to be granted to them; and Ordains this preſent Act to be publiſhed at the Marcat Croſſe of *Edinburgh* by the Lion King of Armes, with all Solemnities requiſit, in the preſence of two perſons of each Eſtate of Parliament, appointed to aſſiſt thereunto.

Arch. Ihonſton, *Cl. Regiſt.*

FINIS.